Abstract

Social distribution of World Wide Web use in Romania. This paper attempts to give a broad picture about the social distribution of the use of the internet, in its first part referring to international aspects, then giving a more detailed account of Romanian peculiarities. The author – Katalin Ravasz – is a sociologist and works with the Institute of Research Programs, Kolozsvár. According to comparative data, the price of a home internet connection is quite high in Romania, but we also have to consider that the label „too expensive” arises through social construction in a given context. That is, the perception „too expensive” doesn’t form an absolute category, but is strongly subjective and socially determined. It is also probable that a reference to material causes could hide other kinds of lacks. The high rate of answers referring to material causes indicates the necessity of an analysis from the perspective of material status.

Transylvanian youth organizations from the perspective of organizational sociology. This paper gives a sociological analysis of Transylvanian hungarian youth organizations. The author, Gergely Barna – consultant of the Executive Presidium of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania – attempts to describe the functions and characteristics of these groups from the perspective of organizational sociology, and to reveal the sociological characteristics of the dimensions determining this sphere. One of his main conclusions is that the organizational sphere of the youth is constituted by loose networks, but the communication between the organizations that form this network is very strong. The structure of the network is a hierarchical one, with conciliatory boards on the different levels and national umbrella organizations on the top. However, the network is more dense at the local level, with cooperations and partnerships with other organizations and institutions – especially with “grown-up” civil organizations, the churches and the DAHR.

Changes in the ethnic map of Kolozs and Bihar counties in the period between 1966–2002. The authors, József Benedek and Egon Nagy, university teachers of Social Geography at the University of Kolozsvár, conclude their analysis with the warning that the subject of the rates and number of Hungarians and half-Hungarians in Transylvania should be treated more delicately. It is certain that the ethnical losers of the socialist industrialization and village-to-town migration were the Transylvanian cities where, before the First World War, the hungarian inhabitants formed a majority - in 1956 Kolozsvár, Hunyad, Nagyvárad etc. were mostly hungarian cities. In 2002, only Szalonta and Érmihályfalva could be counted as such. Previous researches failed to notice a group of communities where changes seemed to favor the numbers of the hungarian population. Future strategies have to build upon this fact. The ethnical homogenization of the villages was a success especially in villages lying close to
the cities, and in strongly industrialized communities. But in the traditional hungarian ethnic
closures (in Kalotaszeg, Mezőség) we can distinguish a group, where the rate of hungarian
inhabitants has grown.

FROM THE PERIPHERY TO THE CENTER. THESSES TO THE INTERPRETATION OF THE SITUATION OF
HUNGARIAN YOUTH ABROAD. The author – Kálmán Gábor, sociologist, youth researcher from
Hungary – interprets the situation of hungarian youth abroad from the hypothesis that in the
1990’s, after the fall of communism their position shifted from the periphery to the center. This
means that the hungarian youth abroad, as well as in Hungary, is subject to many kinds of
pressure: from competition in school to unemployment, premature independence, entering the
market too early, and different stress-fighting techniques. For the Eastern European youth, their
central position means better chances in a harshening competition, but first of all, the urge to
meet the same, or almost the same challenges as Western-European youth.

LIFE EVENTS, SOCIAL-ECONOMIC STATUS AND GENERAL DISPOSITION OF HUNGARIAN YOUTH IN
THE KARPATIAN BASIN. This is a study of the formation and length of the youth period of the
15-29 aged hungarian population of Hungary’s neighboring countries, as well as the age and
mode of incurring of this period’s most important life events. It is based on the hungarian
and majority sample of the research called Mozaik 2001, which can be taken as a sort of a
radiogram of a society. The author, Valér Veres is a sociologist, and teaches at the University of
Kolozsvár.

THE NATION STATE AND THE MARKET OF HIGHER EDUCATION: DATA ON THE STUDENT COMPOSI-
tion of the University of Kolozsvár between WW I. and II. In this period, the saturation
of the intellectual labor market, the overpopulation of higher education, the changes brought
by the war and what followed it were common across all Europe, just like the sinking quality
of higher education and the intellectual market. This was a general situation that affected both
the members of the minority and the majority, but Hungarians and Romanians tended to throw
the blame for this global phenomenon on each other… The author of the paper, Pálfy Zoltán,
teaches History and Political Sciences at the Babeş-Bolyai University.

Although there is a vast literature describing different aspects of the migration of transylvanian
hungarian youth to Hungary, only a few papers deal with their migration with the purpose to
study, in the period after 1990. István Horváth analyzes this phenomenon from the perspectives
of its dynamic in time, its structural context, and the changes of its general (social) and closer
environment (the relationships between the educational system, the labor market, and the system
of social stratification). The author is a sociologist teaching at the Hungarian Department of the
Department of Sociology, University of Kolozsvár. He has specialized on ethnicity, bilingualism
and migration studies.
STUDENTS POLITICAL CULTURE. The paper investigates and interprets results of a survey on participants of the Balvanyos/Tusnad/Tusvanyos Summer University and Students’ Camp, 2001. The authors (Kálmán Ercsei, Réka Geambasu) are sociologists, and work with the Babes-Bolyai University.

„CHARCOAL-BURNERS”. Although there are a large number of papers dealing with overpopulation and periodical migration, they seem to omit the village and its closer geographical environment. The changes of social structure and life-strategies in sekler villages has also been subject to investigation, but none of these researches deals with these problems as they arise in Farkaslaka. Besides following up the local aspects of changes on the macro level in sekler society, our questions focus on a determining aspect of social change in this village: the culture of entrepreneurship. The authors (Kinda Istvánand, Peti Lehel MA students of the Babes-Bolyai University, researchers in ethnology) claim that the emergence of the culture of entrepreneurship is one of the most important processes in the recent past and present of the village; and by describing it, they attempt to draw the image of a local society. The group in focus: charcoal-burners.